



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

INSPECTION REPORT

Partial:___ Complete: XXX Exploration:___

Inspection Date & Time: 2/4/2000 / 8:30a.m.-1:00p.m.

Date of Last Inspection: 1/18/2000

Mine Name: Willow Creek Mine County: Carbon Permit Number: ACT/007/038

Permittee and/or Operator's Name: Plateau Mining Corporation

Business Address: 847 Northwest Highway 191, Helper, Utah 84526

Type of Mining Activity: Underground XXX Surface___ Prep. Plant___ Other___

Company Official(s): Johnny Pappas

State Officials(s): Peter Hess Federal Official(s): None

Weather Conditions: Cold, Partly Cloudy, Flurries

Existing Acreage: Permitted- 14,670 Disturbed- 161.55 Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded- 161.55

Increased/Decreased: Permitted-___ Disturbed-___ Regraded-___ Seeded-___ Bonded-___

Status: Exploration/ XXX Active/___ Inactive/___ Temporary Cessation/___ Bond Forfeiture

Reclamation (Phase I/Phase II/ Final Bond Release/___ Liability___ Year)

REVIEW OF PERMIT, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS & PERMIT CONDITION REQUIREMENTS

Instructions

- Substantiate the elements on this inspection by checking the appropriate performance standard.
 - For complete inspections provide narrative justification for any elements not fully inspected unless element is not appropriate to the site, in which case check N/A.
 - For partial inspections check only the elements evaluated.
- Document any noncompliance situation by referencing the NOV issued at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Reference any narratives written in conjunction with this inspection at the appropriate performance standard listed below.
- Provide a brief status report for all pending enforcement actions, permit conditions, Division Orders, and amendments.

	EVALUATED	N/A	COMMENTS	NOV/ENF
1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. SIGNS AND MARKERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. TOPSOIL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE:				
a. DIVERSIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. OTHER SEDIMENT CONTROL MEASURES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. WATER MONITORING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. EXPLOSIVES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SPOIL/FILLS/BENCHES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. NONCOAL WASTE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. PROTECTION OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. SLIDES AND OTHER DAMAGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. CONTEMPORANEOUS RECLAMATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. BACKFILLING AND GRADING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. REVEGETATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. SUBSIDENCE CONTROL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. CESSATION OF OPERATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. ROADS:				
a. CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/SURFACING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. DRAINAGE CONTROLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. OTHER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. SUPPORT FACILITIES/UTILITY INSTALLATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AVS CHECK (4th Quarter-April, May, June)_____ (date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. BONDING & INSURANCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INSPECTION REPORT
(Continuation sheet)

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PERMIT NUMBER: ACT/007/038

DATE OF INSPECTION: 2/4/2000

(Comments are Numbered to Correspond with Topics Listed Above)

1. PERMITS, CHANGE, TRANSFER, RENEWAL, SALE

Mr. Pappas informed me that he will be submitting an application to permit a 10,000 gallon tank which will contain magnesium chloride for underground roadway dust control. The tank will be located near the main portal entrance.

4b. HYDROLOGIC BALANCE: SEDIMENT PONDS AND IMPOUNDMENTS

The permittee re-initiated work on the southern embankment of Pond 001A to explore same for the placement of coal fines in the embankment on 2/2/2000. Mr. Layne Jensen, P. E., of EarthFax Engineering was on site this morning with a trackhoe and operator to initiate the exploration. Mr. Jensen's plan is to dig test pits every fifteen feet along the inslope and penetrate as deep as possible into the embankment without affecting, as best possible, the stability of the road berm at the crest of the embankment.

The pit which was initiated this morning encountered fines approximately five feet below the road surface, tapering toward the base of the inslope. Mr. Jensen sampled the fines, should an analysis be necessary. Photos were taken.

A secondary inspection made 2/2/2000 in the afternoon showed the following:

- 1) Seven more pits were dug along the inside embankment slope of pond 001A, ranging on centers from fourteen to twenty feet. All pits found buried coal fines except #7, which is directly SE of the sediment level marker.
- 2) Mr. Jensen then decided to dig another pit on the opposite side of the road approximately ten feet SW of pit #7. Coal fines were also found in this pit. Elevations at the tops and bottoms of the coal fines lenses were determined, such that a coal fines cross section map can be drawn up.

Following my departure, Mr. Jensen had six more test pits dug on the stream channel side of the long tunnel access road (in vicinity of pond 001A's outer embankment). Pits 9 and 10 showed an average thickness of 2.2 feet of coal fines; the remaining four pits only showed a small amount of intermixed coal waste.

During the 2/4/2000 inspection, Mr. Jensen spoke with Mr. Pappas and myself relative to establishing a plan for the removal or intermixing of the coal fines with adequate volumes of dirt to meet stability requirements. This will be submitted to the UDNR/OGM for approval prior to implementation.

The annual sediment pond inspection/certification process for ponds 002A, 010A, 011A, 012A, 012B, 013A, 014A, and 015A was conducted by Mr. Layne Jensen, P.E., of EarthFax Engineering. According to Attachment A, ponds 011A, 012A, and 012B have less than one acre foot of sediment storage volume remaining. There were no apparent signs of structural weakness or other hazardous conditions reported for any of the ponds. 014A and 015A are relative to the Crandall Canyon area.

INSPECTION REPORT
(Continuation sheet)

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Pond 001A was not inspected at this time due to the work ongoing relative to the primary and emergency spillways.

4d. WATER MONITORING

The fourth quarter water monitoring report for the site was submitted to the UDNR/OGM/SLO on 1/25/2000. Same indicated that there are problems with in-well air lines for ground water monitoring wells BN251 and B331. Data collected from these points may be inaccurate, as far back as 3/6/96.

All sample analyses reported for fourth quarter showed cation/anion balances within the acceptable error range. CT&E in Huntington, Utah is the reporting lab.

EPA discharge monitoring reports for the site for the month of December were reviewed. No ponds discharged; the reports were submitted on 1/19/2000.

7. COAL MINE WASTE/REFUSE PILES/IMPOUNDMENTS

The fourth quarter waste rock disposal area inspection/certification for the School House Canyon facility was conducted by Messrs. Johnny Pappas and Dan Guy, P.E. on December 10. No signs of instability or other hazardous conditions were noted. All monitoring piezometers were dry.

The annual inspection and P.E. certification for this facility was conducted by Layne Jensen on 12/23/1999.

20. AIR QUALITY PERMIT

A new air quality approval for the two reclaim feeders which were permitted at the preparation plant (DAQE-037-00) was received by the permittee on 1/18/2000.

21. BONDING AND INSURANCE

The permittee's general liability insurance is in effect until 6/30/2000.

Note: This inspection report does not constitute an affidavit of compliance with the regulatory program of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.

Copy of this Report:

Mailed to: Johnny Pappas (Plateau)

Henry Austin (OSM)

Given to: Pam Grubaugh-Littig (DOGM)

Filed to: Price Field Office

Date: February 24, 2000

Inspector's Signature: _____

Peter Hess

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